

## **ART Response – Levels Determination, Reporting & Communication**

If an event occurs the following factors will be used to judge the level of the response:

1. Has damage occurred to the animal facility structure?
2. Is access to the facility restricted and if so, for how long will it be restricted?
3. Is adequate staff present on site?
4. Does the facility have feed/bedding available?
5. Is there water, power, HVAC or other issues needing ORF response?
6. Do animals need to be relocated?
7. Has a hazardous exposure occurred?

### **Animal Resources Coordinator's Responsibilities:**

1. Upon notification of an event, the ARC will determine the response needed using the attached algorithm.
2. The ARC will notify the team members deemed necessary to support the response. Some or all of the ART may be put on standby notice to prepare to respond.
3. The ARC will notify the OACU point of contact when enough information about the status of the event and the affect on animal facility function is known.
4. At the conclusion of the event the ARC will notify all ART members, DEPC, OACU and points of contact in the affected ICs of the outcome.
5. The ARC will request after action responses from those members and IC staff involved in the response using the template survey.
6. The ARC will compile a summary report following receipt of responses and distribute for comment at next DRAAC meeting.

### **Animal Resources Team Member Responsibilities:**

1. Maintain contact information up to date.
2. If planned absence for leave or government travel, notify team leader or ARC with at least 24 hours advance notice.
3. Maintain ART emergency pack with adequate supplies of batteries and other expendable supplies. Inform OACU if replacement equipment or supplies are needed.
4. Upon notification of an event, respond to location as notified, or if placed on standby keep communication routes open to be ready to respond.
5. Complete after actions reports as requested by team leader or ARC.

Response Level Determination – Animal Resources Team							
Has damage occurred to the animal facility structure?	Is access to the facility restricted?	Is adequate staff present on site?	Does the facility have feed/bedding available?	Water, power, HVAC or other issues needing ORF response	Do animals need to be relocated?	Have animals been injured or released?	Has a hazardous exposure occurred?
If No, 0 points	If No, 0 points	If Yes, 0 points	If Yes, 0 points	If No, 0 points	If No, 0 points	If No, 0 points	If No, 0 points
If Yes, 1 point	If Yes, 1 point	If No, 1 point	If No, 1 point	If Yes, 1 point	If Yes, 1 point	If yes, 1 point	If yes, 1 point
	For how long: < 3 hrs – 0 points > 3 & < 12 hrs – 1 point >12 hours – 2 points	Who is needed to assist: IC staff – 0 points ART – 1 point ART+ others- 2 points					

Level 1 – total points = 0

Level 2 – total points = 1

Level 3 – total points = 2-4

Level 4 – total points = 5+

**Level I** - handled by on-site emergency service and IC animal staff using resources which are readily available on site; and where essential services are not compromised.

**Level II** - the IC affected can successfully respond to the crisis affecting the animal holding facility using inherent IC resources. NIH fire and rescue or police departments may respond, but do not normally require expertise or assistance apart from what the IC can provide. The animal facilities are viable and animal health is either unaffected, or the animals can be readily relocated away from the hazard or threat.

**Level III** - animal health status may be compromised. Local containment is questionable, and there may be utility disruption with/without satisfactory backup. Police may be unable to provide adequate security. Several floors of one or more buildings may be involved, or major portions of the building(s) might be uninhabitable. IC resources are limited or exhausted. One or more members of the ART are required to provide expertise and facilitate actions.

**Level IV** - Significant disruption and damage. Animals have been injured or released. Biohazard release, chemical contamination, or radiation hazard that cannot be readily contained or controlled without additional assistance has occurred. Animal holding facilities are limited or no longer suitable. The ART is needed to provide expertise and coordinate resource allocation.